

## **FLOATER LOG RESPONSES AND GENERAL COMMENTS 2010**

**1) If you were DISSATISFIED with a boat camp at any time during your float trip, please tell us the name of the boat camp(s) and why you were dissatisfied.**

- (847) Paradise Bend had too much fresh cow manure on the campsite and at the pull in.
- (817) The last boat camp had cow manure throughout the camp ground.
- (860) Lower Rock Garden & Middle Sunset- some litter in each. Some tree damage from axes. Less litter and damage than we have seen in the past.
- (558) Suggestion- move Stagmiller fire pit to gravel bar closer to river. Middle Ridgetop dumpster needs some leveling.
- (580) Middle Ridgetop too close to other camp, latrine is bad too.
- (594) Two Creek- no trees and very hot.
- (598) Overall we were very pleased with the boat camps. Great signage, fire rings, locations. The only slight complaint we had was being close to other campers. We had middle campsites.
- (607) Crows Foot: Too many cows & fresh cow pies.
- (812) On 7/28 I was signed up for Deep Creek, but found it populated with cows and cow residue.
- (815) Upper Givens Gulch, poor landing and access to river. Cattle herd had taken over camp and scattered cow dung everywhere.
- (816) Upper Givens was trashed by cows. There was no place that was OK to cook or have a tent. We left and went to upper Rattlesnake and had to haze cows there as well. They trash the fire rings and poop everywhere. Also the cows have pushed over the latrine fence at upper Rattlesnake. The fence/latrine at Upper Table Rock needs to be relocated. That's ridiculous to have the potty outside the fence. No privacy!
- (818) Lower Givens Gulch had cows all over camp and feces everywhere. There were also four people in our reserved camp who disliked Upper Givens Gulch because of cows. Why are cattle allowed to free range throughout the river unfenced? Why are there boat camps with Cattle? Poor management.
- (820) Both Deep Creek and Upper Givens had cattle in them. Upper Givens was stomped out bad. Fence needs repair.
- (288) Sheep Wagon should not even be a campsite at high water. Upper/Lower Givens not well depicted on map. Distance between not clear. Did the electrician draw the Map?
- (324) Middle Fraunhofer-No boat tie offs, latrine long hike, not a bad camp for small group.

- (294) Upper Rattlesnake toilet screen needs to be secured.
- (287) Too close to other campsite on Ridgetop.
- (280) County Line latrine too close to camp & too visible, no trees, not scenic (but an adequate site)
- (264) Staigmiller latrine is very full.
- (353) Sheep Wagon difficult to pull in.
- (351) Approaches too fast. Need more forewarning for single camps, Syringa and Crows Foot.
- (354) Upper Parker Flat is a nice site, but a long way to haul stuff up a steep bank in very slippery conditions. Broken latrine at Upper Rattlesnake.
- (326) Sheep Wagon fire pit is in a very low spot, with all the rain we couldn't be close to the fire, water hole.
- (392) Upper Table Rock lid on commode not attached.
- (414) Deep Creek-no latrine. Sunset Cliff-crowded. Rattlesnake-would have been crowded.
- (396) Lower Rock Garden was full of ants. Cow Coulee latrine very shallow
- (395) Upper Black Butte little steep hike and little shoreline. Muddy but great views.
- (391) Crows Foot no shade, latrine clearly visible to the camp.
- (420) Lower Cow Coulee terribly muddy and sloppy loading and unloading,. Site didn't appear to have been used in 2010.
- (424) Upper Sunset could benefit from a few extra boat tie offs stakes. Upper Ridgetop is a tough take in with only one access path. Had poison ivy and lost sunshine early. Noticed the Butte campsite was very muddy among latrine stop.
- (457) Parker Flat #2 is OK but small. Lots of weeds, poison ivy, spurge, thistle and other. Can you do anything here?
- (488) Lower Trout Creek, the cabin downstream played loud music into the night. The road downstream is disgusting.
- (542) We wish the people near us at Sunset Cliffs did not have a radio though usually the river drowned it out.
- (330) Lower Givens hard for tarps.
- (313) Upper Black Butte so slick difficult to climb up with gear, fire pit pure mud.
- (302) Bear Gulch was our scheduled camp for 6/13 , but there was mud hole between take out and camp area and cow shit all over, so we left.
- (339) Lower Scotty Allen muddy, Upper Sunset a much nicer campground. Upper Ridge Cliff nice campsite, tough takes out.
- (224) They should put in gravel at some of the sites if possible they can get really muddy.
- (268) Upper Ridgetop very bad access for five boats in high water.
- (254) Two Creek hard landing, walk to outhouse was steep.
- (248) Upper Ridgetop landing bad and distance to camp from river.

- (246) Sheep Wagon had bad landing
- (237) Upper Rattlesnake needs more warning of approach. Latrine needs work
- (230) Sheep Wagon was great other than the take out as we were parked right in the little willow trees and they were hard to protect as we unloaded. Also some of them had been cut off and poking the bottom of the raft with high water it was fairly hazardous. Merganser had one campsite cleared but the willows were again left high and you couldn't camp plus it was dangerous.
- (229) Upper Ridgetop should not be used during high water very dangerous take out.
- (221) We were not dissatisfied but will not be choosing Syringa again due to beaching.
- (218) Crows Foot the latrine was not well hidden. Upper Ridgetop boat landing was steep, slippery.
- (216) Canyon Depth take out at high water is difficult. Crows Foot leafy Spurge is spreading in camp site.
- (128) Merganser was small and tough to get into.
- (57) Merganser Bend had only one tent site that was decent, willows were cut at other site but not removed making holes in tent floor and tarp.
- (46) Upper Rattlesnake was too open.
- (43) Canyon Depth difficult to load/unload because of shoreline.
- (37) Merganser needs some smaller trees thinned out.
- (28) Middle Scotty Allen toilet location too far up hillside.
- (23) Lower Table Rock no shelter, covered in goose and cow poop.
- (20) Lower Fraunhofer no shade we picked up lots of garbage and cow pies.
- (85) Middle Indians Springs dirty with rubbish.
- (84) Not happy about Deep Creek boat camp
- (83) Middle Scotty Allen a long hike to latrine.
- (82) Upper Fraunhofer was full of garbage from a recent camp.
- (205) Lower Black Butte the trail to camping spot was very steep and muddy, needed steps.
- (201) Crows Foot latrine not hidden from camp. Merganser Bend too many bushes.
- (191) Syringa no lid on toilet. Upper Trout Creek latrine tipped over. Upper Parker Flats huge puddle surrounding fire pit.
- (187) Some of the boat camps have a lot of noxious weeds that need treatment. The weeds are fewer than past years, good job.
- (179) Parker Flat #2 latrine was a mess
- (175) Lower Scotty was very muddy at the camp site.
- (168) Upper Ridgetop needs more boat tie offs. Not good for more than one or two rafts.

- (150) At Upper Ridgetop there was only one tie off. Great campsite but put in/take out at high water was difficult.
- (146) Lower Ridgetop too close to Middle.
- (143) Upper Sunset shot guns for several hours. At Parker #1 group was still in camp at 2:30 pm.
- (132) We stopped to check out the new camp, Deep Creek, we were disappointed to see toilet paper scattered around the area, even more disappointed to later talk with river ranger who claimed to have seen nothing!
- (124) Deep Creek- apparently we were the 4<sup>th</sup> group ever to use Deep Creek, but you wouldn't know it by the amount of human feces spread around camp. Please don't just ask people to use waste systems, check to make sure they actually have the system before floating!
- (112) Merganser Bend warning sign would help or move take out upstream. Would be great campsite improvement project. Now we get what he means about brush.
- (111) Hike to latrine at Lower Scotty Allan is steep.
- (109) People in Middle Trout Creek left soiled toilet paper in the trees around the camp. They did not use latrine.
- (105) Crows Foot needs a better toilet privacy shield.
- (103) Upper Fraunhofer pit toilet visible from river.
- (89) All need maintenance.
- (92) Latrine sign at Syringa was rotten and knocked down.
- (89) Deep Creek needs pit toilet.
- (88) Paradise Bend cow manure everywhere.
- (247) Upper Ridge Top landing is tough at high water.
- (434) Upper Trout Creek more micro trash around than one would like and too crowded.
- (367) Scotty Allen latrine high and slippery hike when wet. Trout Creek road running thru it and fire ring up and far from boat.
- (394) Lower Rattlesnake, no shade and the latrines were far away.
- (460) Canyon Depth was steep hard loading and unloading. Latrine was open. Lower Givens confusing getting in hard to land with rapids.

**2) If you DISLIKED the number of other boats you observed on the water while floating the river, please indicate the single most important contributing factor.**

- (128) Right of way
- (268) Couldn't get away from the outfitters fishing. They were spread out and constantly passing all-day.

- (224) How could anyone dislike the number of other floater or boats we hardly ever saw any. It would be nice to see more people on the river. No one is ever at the cabins. It would be better if they put out more permits.
- (488) Too many guides, not very nice, the clients were ok.
- (457) Seemed like a bunch of boats soon after the put in, but then everybody seemed to spread out.
- (396) Rookies, poor river etiquette, boats launching from their camp while we were floating, just wait ten minutes.
- (341) Just seems like lots of boats.
- (283) Very crowded
- (558) There were a large number of boats floating in the same general area at the same general speed as the boat we were floating in.
- (132) Anchoring mid river, usually by guides. We call it hole hogging, not mention bottom ripping.
- (164) Extremely loud and intoxicated guys from Big Timber.

**5) Did you witness any violations during your trip (park or fishing regulations, other)? If so, what/where? Please note boat tag numbers if possible.**

- (59) One group had a dog with them and they left a sack of trash by our boats. We carried it out.
- (56) Dog in fisherman's raft from Parker Flat.
- (37) 4/22 Middle Trout Creek- arrived 5pm to find fire still smoldering in fire ring.
- (23) 4/20 AM had to put out fire in fire ring at Middle Scotty Allen, was still burning from campers the previous night.
- (1) At Upper Fraunhofer noted chainsaw use on logs/trees and one tie down post removed. Some trees.
- (86) The party hid their tag # but had a dog with them. In Upper Franhofer their "service" dog ran around our camp for an hour. They shot three rounds of a 22 rifle in the morning. Said they were shooting the gun to call the dog. They were neither blind nor crippled. These guys should never be allowed on the river again! They were in Upper Fraunhofer the night of 5/9. We didn't get the boat number. Look in your log. DOGS! GUNS! COME ON!
- (84) Beer cans floating in the water. The nearest boats were three. One # was 79.
- (165) #166? Three canoes camped illegally on private land one mile below Rattlesnake river left.
- (162) we saw a group camping past the last campsite. Didn't catch boat #.
- (446) Outfitter sawing tree branches for fire wood.

- (860) Two boats that were together brought a dog and folded the boat tag so could not be read, 9/23/10. The dog visited us at our camp after dark as the party camped next to us at Upper Sunset. No problems, but thought dogs were prohibited. We felt he should have been confined to their camp.
- (812) Two dogs with groups.
- (280) Dog #273
- (396) Fires at both Upper Parker Flat and Upper Ridgetop were still hot, put a piece of cardboard in when we arrived at camp and it caught fire both times.
- (310) Possible guided trip. Guide flicked cigarette butt in river. Guy was in drift boat with one other person. Had a green tag. I believe tag number was 30. Believe total group was two drift boats and one blue raft.
- (104) Parker Flat, found lots of garbage in the ring and around camp, broken tent poles, knives, duct tape and toilet paper all around toilet, disappointing for such a beautiful camp. Trout Creek campsite, toilet paper and feces behind tree. Rice and salsa in latrine. Middle Ridgetop, lots of garbage in fire ring.

**7) Any other comments you have about your Smith River trip or about the river in general are more than welcome.**

- (351) Keep up the good work.
- (353) Only complaints related to weather, also lack of places to stop for lunch on last day.
- (280) Darlene was very helpful. Got to take out and the shuttle service had not delivered the truck. We do not recommend Amy's Think Wild. Called Charlie, the owner, who had no idea what was going on. The park rangers were very helpful and figured out the truck was still at Camp Baker. Thank you FWP.
- (283) Campsites very well maintained including the latrines. The latrines are very nice to have. Rangers at put in were very friendly and helpful. Suggestions, include additional points of interest on maps, put in wash down at take out for aquatic species, and include info packet on smith river geology and birds.
- (284) It is a great recreational float trip and well managed. It does not need increased restrictions or increased management. Just right at the current management level. Thank you
- (287) Amazing scenery and overall well kept and maintained campsites.
- (294) Reduce group size to 12. Expand recyclables. Offering of maps, throw bags, etc. at put in is good idea. Some liked old map better larger scale, new ones too small font.
- (289) Lock box key drop at put in for shuttles.
- (288) Upper/lower Givens not well depicted on map. Distance between not clear. Did the electrician draw the map?

- (823) Signage covered with brush at some places. No FWP personnel or good instructions at Camp Baker.
- (820) Carla is always great to work with on the phone. Another great trip. Thanks for caring for a great river. Typically there isn't water this time of year to float so very happy to get a cancellation. Both Deep Creek and Upper Givens had cattle in them. Upper Givens was stomped out bad, fence needs repair.
- (819) Thanks to Kyle who switched campsites to avoid bear encounters.
- (818) Why are cattle allowed to free range through the river unfenced? Why are there boat camps with cattle? This is the single best trip I've ever taken in 41 years of roaming the west. It is a scenic treasure.
- (816) Big problem with the bear. At Bear Gulch the bear got in the water and swam after us. Would not let us near the shore, no amount of yelling made it leave. I felt very concerned that if the bear got near it would puncture the raft. It got within 15 feet when we were in an eddy and sand bar. It was scary this bear was very aggressive. It then followed us as we left. It swam 100 yards downstream after us before it got out of the water. We are sure this is the same bear that harassed us Middle Trout Creek the week before. This bear is a threat.
- (600) Saw a very large cinnamon colored bear between Table Rock and Fraunhofer on Thursday afternoon.
- (599) Beautiful, keep up the great work, and please keep this corridor protected.
- (598) I really enjoy the permit system. It took me a few years to draw a permit but is worth the wait. Please do not increase the number users, this would lessen the experience. The campsites are very well maintained and you do a great job of limiting human impact.
- (596) The bear we saw as we drifted past Bear Gulch is obviously habituated and should be destroyed. The bear actually got in the water and moved toward us, wanting food. No dogs are a great rule. Keep the latrines, they are discreet and helpful. The fishing was awesome. It would be helpful if there was better info about the channel split above Eden Bridge, like a few web photos, etc.
- (591) Shouldn't be so expensive.
- (584) Great river, great float, beautiful scenery, food and fishing. Nothing negative here.
- (580) Cottonwoods in the right channel at the end are very dangerous. Cut them out!!! Do something about the ten or so vehicle river crossings above Fraunhofer.
- (558) Need more emphasis on putting fires out. We stopped to extinguish several. Consider picnic tables at each site, nightmare to install I know but still, get volunteer groups. Ban boat and raft anchors. Ranger Johnson did a great job. LNT principles are great. The concept of actually leaving no trace is ludicrous. Well developed sites minimize impact to surrounding areas. Leaving it better/cleaner than you found it makes more sense.
- (534) While I understand the great challenge that FWP has balancing landowner and recreational interests on the Smith, I did not enjoy or appreciate having to

chase cattle out of camp repeatedly, dodging cow pies in the kitchen, bedroom and living room, and consistently breathing and virtually tasting cow shit while hearing 3 to 4 dozen of them scream on the border of camp, which is a beautiful flower filled meadow on public land. I live in Montana and understand that ranchers graze public land and that on the Smith FWP leases private land for floaters to camp on, but the scenario we encountered was inappropriate and unfortunate. This being said I appreciate the great job FWP does on the Smith and appreciate the opportunity to float it.

- (238) It was running about 3,000cfs at Eden bridge. The ranger said the right channel was clear, it was ok. The main tree at the entrance poses as some danger.
- (830) Did not like the barbed wire fences  $\frac{3}{4}$  through the river.
- (817) Great float except for the cows.
- (840) There's two barbed wire fences crossing the river on the final two miles which were very difficult to get through with our raft.
- (870) Worry about the recreational cabins popping up, otherwise great, of course it helps to in October if you want solitude.
- (451) The nicest trip you could take. We appreciate the potties.
- (373) Keep up the good work.
- (372) Since two years ago, more weeds around campsites.
- (370) We feel the latrines could be sited so they were not visible from campsites.
- (367) A heavenly experience. No litter at campsites or along the river. Friendly floater. Breath taking beauty. Worth every minute.
- (313) It's gross when people smoke in the latrines at Camp Baker.
- (377) First night at Canyon Depth, we had two brave Wardens come in to our camp and announce their presence. They have guns and even if someone is fishing below they should announce what and why they are there to whoever they first encounter. It's kind of scary when you're setting up your tent and two strangers with guns just come in. Everyone would understand if they had announced themselves. Call and I will explain more (406) 443-2731.
- (342) Great signage, good latrines, and camps good sizes. Sign at channel split too small print/should have left arrow.
- (251) We feel the Smith River Experience is not broken, stop trying to fix it!
- (321) Ryan at the put in was extremely professional.
- (366) I feel it is a well run operation. Clean all the way through. Rangers were most helpful. Actually had fishing license checked by F&G (good).
- (354) Always a beautiful trip, even in high water and rain. Check in process seemed slow this year. We were there at 7:15 the morning we launched, but didn't talk to the ranger until 11:00. Could you have more than one person to do check - ins?
- (326) Forest service guy at Camp baker was very friendly and knowledgeable. All paying customers should get a map, not per boat.



- (425) Like the no dog rule. Like the gravel around Upper Rock Garden fire pit. Deep Creek camp very sad idea. This is one of the most remote, best fishing spot. A camp ruins it. Please get rid of the camp.
- (392) The trail to the pictograph caves was almost impassable in parts. If not for a rope that was there, some of the climbers would have had to turn back. Overall, what a great experience. FWP does a fine job. This is one of the most pleasurable, serene rivers anywhere in the US. I felt honored and privileged for the opportunity to float the Smith.
- (410) Absolutely wonderful no changes please, unless I can win a trip more often.
- (401) FWP made a new rule this year prohibiting pets at Camp Baker and on the river. FWP does not appear to be enforcing this, while I disagree with this new FWP rule, I do obey it. Others do not without consequence. If you are going to have the rule, please enforce it. Otherwise, please rescind the rule.
- (493) Thistle taking over camp sites. Ox Eye Daisy just above Parkers. Not much jump on it. Raise the fees if necessary to keep latrines dug and weeds sprayed. More camp clearing rule enforcement. When asked about beetle kill for wood, not encouraged to cut it even though at 7/3 mountain pine beetle haven't flown so burning them would kill them before they moved on to kill other pines.
- (395) Signs at Eden Bridge would be helpful. Signs at campsites were helpful. Had a great time and enjoyed privacy at campsites. Well organized.
- (391) There should be a better take out for the hike to see the pictographs in the Indian Cave. There should be signs for all the pictographs along the way.
- (422) The higher water level made it easier to get around rafts that fishing upper river. Previous years we received more instructions at the put in for floaters. This year we received very little, new floaters with us needed instructions regarding latrine care etc.
- (424) There is a significant noxious weed presence at Upper Sunset. Thistle, leafy spurge, and hounds tongue, all flowering and will soon set seed. We noticed the Swallow population seemed much smaller than in years past. Steel cables hanging from bridge into water at five miles before take out. Couldn't tell if it was connected to something under the water or not. Could you offer weed pulling permits or get youth groups to do some weed removal as a service mission?
- (425) Well run, overall outstanding. Thank you for Bear Gulch, mowed areas, mooring posts and fire grills. Rangers at Baker very pleasant.
- (457) Can you gravel the parking lot? Terrible weed problem. With everybody from all over, it would be a good seed source to eliminate.
- (369) It should be mandatory of every float party to flush the latrines with a bucket of water. We did to help out the rangers and all the sites really needed it.
- (361) Kyle Anderson was an excellent representative of FWP. He was helpful, thoughtful, pleasant demeanor and provided us insights that were very helpful.

- (356) Special thanks to ranger Kyle and ranger Billy for making sure our fire pit was in a safe spot far from trees and giving my three year old nephew Clayton a baseball to play with. We had a great time.
- (479) Kyle Anderson, River Ranger at Camp Baker was very helpful He provided wonderful recommendations for boat camps. The camps had good access and were very clean. We had a great trip. It was an outstanding trip for all. Thank you
- (472) The trip was really nice! I am not sure how the drawing process works but I believe a Montana resident's entry in this draw should have a better chance of being drawn than a non resident entry. We all really enjoyed the trip!
- (542) Very nice volunteers at take out. We really enjoyed the hiking trail from Sunset Cliffs. There is a side trail at top of ridge which took us out the edge of cliffs above Cow Coulee. Lots of bell and musk thistle that could be controlled snipping seed heads and bagging up. We did not have gloves and clippers but did cut a few seed heads. How about a free permit for weed shipping volunteers during thistle blooming season? I'll bet you'd be deluged with volunteers.
- (349) Good job by Ryan and Kyle, they make Colin look good! Give them a raise.
- (337) We really appreciated Ryan's camp suggestions before we left. Had great camps and a great time.
- (318) Ranger at put in was the best one yet and this is my sixth year in a row coming on the trip.
- (307) Upper Sunset Cliff sites too adjacent. Increased development reduces enjoyment. Very well managed.
- (224) Camp Baker could use some trees for shade and cover from wind and rain.
- (268) Rangers were very helpful and informative. Price for in state and out of state floaters should be the same. Camp grounds overall in great shape. Loved the pet toilets and fire rings. Beautiful float.
- (259) Fabulous, the ranger at Camp Baker was the best we've experienced. Knowledgeable, friendly with a good sense of humor. I believe his name was Ryan.
- (254) Great to have camp host at take out for security.
- (249) Water PVC at Bear Creek camp needs to be better marked.
- (234) Very satisfied by the camp sites, great maps and signage. Public and private land clearly marked. No surprise hazards.
- (233) Darlene at Camp Baker very helpful, top notch, same with Bob at take out.
- (230) We had a great trip and appreciate the permit system as it never felt crowded. Lots of leafy spurge and other weeds which would be nice to see some sort of program in place. Overall excellent.
- (266) Ranger at Camp Baker was very professional and helpful.
- (206) Boat camps clean, views excellent, water a little muddy. Numerous boat camps. Excellent views from multiple latrines.
- (137) Darlene, river ranger, did a platinum service approach with the entire Camp Baker experience. Thanks Darlene.

- (128) I have been rowing for 16 years. There were some spots that were not what I expected. If a beginner were out in these conditions it could be bad.
- (123) I wish we could bring dogs. Maybe the cows and the geese should pack out their own waste from the campsites.
- (247) We miss being able to have dogs. Campsites were clean and have great tent spots. Latrines are excellent. Watching floaters miss the Eden Bridge landing and end in the willows was entertaining.
- (88) Need mileage signs on boat camps.
- (89) Ranger Darlene did professional customer service orientation at Camp Baker. Deep Creek needs pit toilet.
- (90) Hope trees down in river don't hinder travel at low flow. Great river , great trip, keep up the good work.
- (99) Ryan Johnson was a great help at the put in.
- (89) Great trip. Looked at camp at Deep Creek, needs latrine and is very lumpy. Lady ranger at Camp Baker was very nice.
- (101) Wonderful trip. Five days on the river, two were cold and windy, three hot and sunny. Great trip.
- (103) Ranger at Baker was excellent. Upper Fraunhofer has a spike in tree (N. side of camp) that we could not remove. Upper Ridgetop, middle tie off post rotted out and useable.
- (108) Most in group don't like the dog ban. I however do.
- (109) I'm not sure how it could be done, but picnic tables at camp sites would be nice.
- (112) Great Ranger. Camp Baker was amazingly clean considering number of people going thru there.
- (115) Toilets are great. Put in River Ranger could be more river knowledgeable. Pull Trout Creek camps.
- (118) Would like better trail markers at pictograph cave.
- (119) We have never seen so few goats and other groups on the Smith.
- (124) Encourage more use of portable waste systems along the river, but don't just ask boaters to use them, please try educating those that don't know how or don't realize how easy it really is. If you, I'm quite sure the Deep Creek experiment will fail. Prohibiting dogs from the river is a silly mistake. Consider putting more time into reducing more significant impact, such as the Little Appalachia illegal outfitting camps. Overall, you all are doing a great job managing this resource. Having floated the river for 25 plus years I continue to be impressed. Keep up the good work.
- (132) No fishing log anymore? If FWP summer help finds digging holes below their pay grade, offer a few floats to volunteer digging teams, I'm in. Rick Edelen 443-0517.

- (134) Thanks for cleaning the fire pit at Crow's Foot while we were camping there. We loved the benches at Lower Indian Springs.
- (142) Darlene and Phyllis are wonderful folks. Very helpful. Guys on the river very nice.
- (146) Trying to make it annual. Good work.
- (150) Liked the fact that there's a camp host at Eden Bridge. Also enjoyed that permit/launch numbers per day are kept low.
- (156) The Smith River manager and total staff deserves a raise in pay for the excellent job they do.
- (158) Very well managed.
- (159) Everyone employed is friendly and helpful. The camps are very well kept. The new map is very good. Avery good float, thank you.
- (162) Please have provided map available before trip starts, it helps to plan.
- (163) Both rangers were very helpful. Perhaps more could have been said about the high water conditions and emphasis that no one should be on the oars without medium experience.
- (164) Another awesome trip.
- (166) Loved the noxious weed control. Great trip.
- (170) Nobody checked our permit or have us a log. Lady at Eden Bridge gave us one to fill out. First time that had happened. Helped tow guys in canoe that tipped. Great trip.
- (171) We dumped the canoe four times. Great trip, lifetime experience.
- (172) I miss my dogs.
- (178) Give out more permits.
- (184) Please mark trail to Indian Cave.
- (187) FWP is doing a great job managing the Smith river. Darlene at Camp Baker was very helpful. Carla in Great Falls does a great job. I am very happy there are no dogs. Please keep the latrines. More permits would allow more people to float.
- (191) Thank you; we loved it all through sun, sleet, snow and crappy fishing. It's the adventure of a lifetime!
- (199) Great trip, but bad weather and high water.
- (202) Please don't take away the scenic toilet settings.
- (204) Suggest campers pack out their own human waste.
- (210) We had a great trip despite the high water, rain and cool weather.
- (213) Get rid of the crappers. Make folks pack our waste. They are disgusting and for water quality.
- (50) The storm was worse this year than last year. Thankful Gary was able to accommodate us for several days.
- (62) We missed man's best friend.
- (68) Put in Ranger, Ryan, very helpful picking sites with possible less now. He is a great guy. Thanks for a great float. This is number seven for me.

- (69) Ryan very helpful at put in. Changed from four nights to three due to weather and no fish.
- (71) Bathroom distance from camp was a little far, but consider the weather. Good privacy. Very clean river, well managed.
- (83) Fantastic trip.
- (84) Deep Creek is one of the most remote areas and best fishing. Not a good place for a camp. Enough camps already.
- (81) Don't make us pack out our poop.
- (16) Campsites clean and well maintained.
- (17) Like pit latrines.
- (20) Great trip. Fishing was not good due to river blowing out, but weather was awesome. Will look forward to coming back next year. Hoping we can draw a permit.
- (23) Map handed out at Camp Baker should be mailed out with permit. Would like to have groovers and fire pans required, get rid of fire pits and latrines. Trip would have been perfect if it hadn't blown out, fishing was terrible. Still had a great time, but glad we were there early season, seems like camps could get really crowded if all permits were used and filled up.
- (25) Poor fishing conditions, but awesome float. Will be back. Came out a day early and had a great day on the Missouri river.
- (28) Put in Rangers, Ryan and Darlene were very pleasant and helpful.
- (32) Jointly, some more than others, in our group have floated the Smith for 25 years. We and most other we talked to really object to carrying out our body waste, the toilets along the river are very good and effective. Dolphy Pohlman.
- (35) First two days everything great except muddy water contributing to poor fishing. Great scenic float. All down were weather related. FWP staff at Camp Baker was friendly, helpful and professional.
- (37) Unleash the hounds!
- (39) We were booked to camp at Syringa the first night, but the camp was double booked and we had to camp at Two Creek instead. We were dissatisfied with that.
- (40) Move takeout to five miles upstream.
- (43) The ranger at put in was great, very helpful. Thanks for working on right channel split. Very well done. Please do what you can, especially in low 250-300 cfs water, to make the right channel optional. Great job. Last year we pulled four boats on zero water going left.
- (47) Upper Ridgetop has a boat stake tie off that is extremely loose and coming out of the ground.
- (56) Flows are still good. I'd go again soon. Smith is always beautiful. Took refuge in fisherman's tent at Parker Flat Thurs. – Fri. morning, wind almost blew it away. Saved us from freezing.
- (59) Due to the weather, it was a very slow week on the river.